

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further prosecution of the above-identified application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments, and the discussion that follows. Claims 1-32 were pending, Claims 3 and 9 are being cancelled and claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 10, 12-14, 19, 20 and 25-27 are being amended.

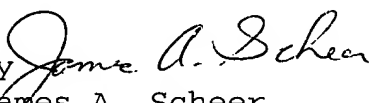
Claims 1-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,999,965 to Kelly in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,479,488 to Lennig et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,029,124 to Gillick et al. and U.S. Pat. No. 5,475,733 to Eisdorfer et al. The rejection was made final. However, the Examiner indicated that if the claims were rewritten to 1) direct the claim scope to an "autodialing" type of call and 2) further specifying within the sampling an initial audio portion of the call, detecting and sampling a greeting within the initial audio portion, they would overcome the prior art of record. All the independent claims 1, 7, 13, 19, and 25 have been so amended. In addition, claims 2, 4, 10, 12, 14, 20, 26 and 27 have been amended to clarify them and correct dependence. Claims 3 and 9 have been cancelled.

Accordingly, allowance of all remaining claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-32, as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit

Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By 
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July 14, 2005
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